HLS 11RS-659 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2011

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11

BY REPRESENTATIVE BALDONE

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Memorializes congress to provide funding for the Regional Counterdrug Training Academy

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

| 2 | To memorialize the United States Congress to provide proper funding for the Regional |
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| 3 | Counterdrug Training Academy which provides counterdrug training to law |
| 4 | enforcement agencies in the southern coastal region. |
| 5 | WHEREAS, the Regional Counterdrug Training Academy (RCTA) located at the |
| 6 | Naval Air Station in Meridian, Mississippi, began as a component of the law enforcement |
| 7 | agency sponsored, congressionally directed, Gulf States Counterdrug Initiative (GSCI); and |
| 8 | WHEREAS, the purpose of the GSCI is "to identify resources, services, and support |
| 9 | that can be legitimately provided by the Department of Defense and other agencies to |
| 10 | support counterdrug activities along the United States southern coastal region"; and |
| 11 | WHEREAS, although sponsored by law enforcement, six United States Senators, |
| 12 | nineteen United States Representatives, and three state governors heavily endorsed the GSCI |
| 13 | proposal; and |
| 14 | WHEREAS, one of the provisions of the GSCI document was a request by the |
| 15 | Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi senior drug law enforcement agencies to establish a |
| 16 | counterdrug training academy with the mission of training law enforcement officers in |
| 17 | counterdrug skills; and |
| 18 | WHEREAS, the academy mission was initially focused on the three requesting states |
| 19 | and later expanded to include the states of Georgia and Tennessee; and |
| 20 | WHEREAS, in addition to the GSCI states, the RCTA provides training to law |
| 21 | enforcement agencies throughout the United States, including the National Guardsmen |

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| 2 | enforcement officers or agencies; and |
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| 3 | WHEREAS, with guidance and resources provided by the Office of the Secretary of |
| 4 | Defense (OSD) Coordinator for Drug Enforcement Policy and Support, and the National |
| 5 | Guard Bureau (NGB), the Mississippi National Guard accepted the mission of establishing |
| 6 | a regional training center; and |
| 7 | WHEREAS, the RCTA training philosophy emphasizes hands-on training and |
| 8 | demands a secure field training facility; and |
| 9 | WHEREAS, since the first class began in September 1992, thousands of officers |
| 10 | have graduated in over forty-three different subjects at the RCTA; and |
| 11 | WHEREAS, the target audience is state, county or parish, and municipal uniformed |
| 12 | officers and conventional narcotics investigators; and |
| 13 | WHEREAS, the RCTA has been offering unparalleled training for over fifteen years |
| 14 | to law enforcement agencies all over the Gulf states region; and |
| 15 | WHEREAS, the RCTA has offered approximately sixty different counterdrug |
| 16 | courses as well as approximately ten counter terrorism courses at no cost to the law |
| 17 | enforcement agency; and |
| 18 | WHEREAS, the RCTA has been an extremely valuable asset to the law enforcement |
| 19 | community of the entire Gulf states region; and |
| 20 | WHEREAS, the budget used to fund RCTA has not been approved, causing all |
| 21 | upcoming classes to be canceled. |
| 22 | THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby |
| 23 | memorialize the Congress of the United States to restore funding for the Regional |
| 24 | Counterdrug Training Academy located in Meridian, Mississippi. |
| 25 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the |
| 26 | presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the |
| 27 | United States of America and each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation. |

involved in counterdrug support missions, which has been provided at no cost to the law

HLS 11RS-659

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Baldone HCR No. 11

Memorializes congress to provide proper funding for the Regional Counterdrug Training Academy to continue offering law enforcement training programs to law enforcement agencies in the southern coastal region.